



June 27, 2006

INVENTOR: Benton F. Baugh
TITLE: ROTO-ERECTOR FOR J-LAY PIPELAYING SYSTEM
APPLICATION NO.: 10/678,282
ART UNIT: 3652
EXAMINER: Gregory W. Adams

DRAWINGS:

1. Drawing must show every feature. The 3 jacks 42 shown in figure 1 and 2 provide the gimballing means for the tower. The word "gimbal" is not used in the specification, but rather "change the tower angle". Irrespective, the claims 20 and 21 are cancelled so that it is a mute point other than that the drawings do not need to be revised.

SPECIFICATION

Page 5, line 9, the comment "Jacks 42 can be gimbaled" is eliminated.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claim 8 The word "the" is deleted.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claims 2-6, 9-10, and 17 are changed from passive to active wording.

Frijns et al

I have changed the wording in the last lines of the independent claims 1, 7, and 12 from "delivering said pipe section to said mast" to extending said pipe section away from said rotational axis to said mast" to clarify the distinction between prior art and my invention.

Frijns does not disclose a scissors type mechanism, he simply rotates the pipe into his desired position. The ability to rotate to a new axis and then extend into position is a clear distinction between my invention and that of Frijns.

As I cannot find a scissors mechanism in Frijns in the first place, I cannot also find where he arranges a scissors mechanism to move axially to the rotational axis and extend perpendicular to the rotational axis.